

"Pre-Convention Bulletin" a Desirable Innovation.—As stated at the outset of these comments, these various reports will be submitted to the House of Delegates to be referred to its proper committees and then acted upon by the House. The report of the proceedings of the House of Delegates will appear in next month's issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE. It is our impression that the members of the House of Delegates, after this first experience with such a printed outline and survey of past and future work, will look with favor on this *Pre-Convention Bulletin*.

WILLIAM HENRY WELCH

The Eightieth Birthday of William H. Welch of Johns Hopkins.—William H. Welch, whose eightieth birthday occurred on April 8, was honored in many cities throughout the country by meetings held in his honor. These meetings were an expression of the high regard in which are held the contributions which he had made to scientific medicine and to humanity in the many years it has been his privilege to serve at the shrine of the healing art. Where formal meetings were not held, members of the profession who were aware of the celebration of his natal day gave him silent good wishes, in their pride at his notable achievements on behalf of modern scientific medicine.

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The Life and Work of Doctor Welch an Inspiration.—Both the lay world and the medical profession have reasons to be grateful for the existence of men like Doctor Welch. Modest, gracious, hard-working, clear-thinking—with vision and devotion he has carried on his work from the time bacteriology first came into real being through the researches of Pasteur, bringing forth from his laboratories from time to time, this, that or the other study on some medical problem, which would make it possible for his colleagues to do to better advantage their work in the conservation of human health and life.

Even at the age of eighty, he is still an active force in medical advancement, as witness the institution of the new department of the history of medicine which, largely through his urging and efforts, has been organized at Johns Hopkins University.

That he may live for many days to come, to see the further fruition of his past efforts and to receive the esteem and honor in which he is held by his colleagues from one end of the country to the other, is the wish not only of those who have had the privilege of working under him or of personally knowing him, but also of that great host of medical men who give him their meed of praise and recognition because, through the literature, they have learned to appreciate his splendid services to the medical profession and to the human family. His life is an inspiration to every medical man or woman desirous of performing real service.

EPIDEMIC CEREBROSPINAL FEVER

Recent Articles in California and Western Medicine.—Among the special articles of this issue is an article on epidemic cerebrospinal fever on the Pacific Coast by Dr. J. D. Geiger, who is the epidemiologist for the Hooper Foundation of the University of California. In the Miscellany department, in the "Clippings From the Lay Press" column, is reprinted a Washington dispatch concerning cerebrospinal meningitis, based on recent reports of the United States Public Health Service. A very interesting article, giving a report by Dr. Barnet E. Bonar on seventy-one Utah cases, was also printed in the November issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, page 316. The attention of readers of this journal is called to these articles, not only because of their general public health importance, but because the sequelae of this disease so often are little less than tragic.

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Outbreaks Aboard Ship.—Of special interest to Californians are the facts brought out by Doctor Geiger concerning epidemics on Pacific Ocean ships which dock at ports on the west coast of the United States. The recurring outbreaks aboard certain ships trading with the Orient indicate how rigid must be the port quarantines if infected persons are to be kept from shore entrance to Pacific Coast states. Lack of such stringent quarantine regulations might make possible the entrance of one or more infected persons or carriers, with possibilities of untold horror to those who might subsequently become infected.

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Report Suspicious Cases to Health Departments.—Cerebrospinal fever is one of the diseases which menace human health and happiness, and life as well, and all practitioners should be on the alert to recognize the disease when and wherever met. Suspicious cases should be promptly reported to local and to state health officers.

BACK TO NATURE FOR DISCOVERIES IN SCIENCE

"There Is Nothing New Under the Sun."—Certainly when one considers the universe—insofar as our feeble vision will permit—and to think of the earthly planet on which we human beings have our existence, and to note the infallible and never-varying laws under which nature guides it and all things upon it, we cannot do other than to acknowledge—as we note the phenomena evidenced in the mineral, plant and animal kingdoms—that probably nothing that man has or will discover in relation to physical forces but has had an application in nature for ages and ages past, in manner manifold and almost beyond the comprehension of most humans.

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An Interesting Contribution From Peru on Wound Care.—The general observations, as just given, come to us as we consider a newspaper clipping of a few days ago. The item had to do with a recent report by the Field Museum of